Mount Saint Mary's University | Los Angeles

mount

magazine

spring/summer 2018

Beyond borders

Interdisciplinary project sends students to Peru for cancer research

Support system: Peer wellness advocates ready to make a difference

Roy's home: A nursing Living Legend returns to mentor, inspire

The Kennedy files: Alum's collection a presidential treasure

WHAT A GREAT 2018 WE'RE HAVING SO FAR! Our unstoppable campaign is off to an amazing start, thanks to all of you who have supported our focus on educational excellence, scholarships and wellness. This is the most ambitious campaign in the University's history and our $100 million goal will help us expand our academic programs, fund scholarships and build a Wellness Pavilion that will benefit generations of students.

I am also thrilled to have Sister Callista Roy, CSJ, '63 back home. After more than 30 years at Boston College's School of Nursing, Sister Callista has returned to the Mount to teach and inspire our students and our faculty in their own research and professional development. She has been named a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing, a prestigious honor given only to a very select few. Sister Callista joins the great Florence Nightingale on a short list of influential nursing theorists who have contributed tremendously to the growth of modern-day professional nursing practice. Not only has she changed the face of nursing, she has changed the lives of so many Mount alums who have gone into their communities and served in healthcare professions.

The Mount has always challenged students to be innovative, to work collaboratively and to strive for change in their communities. That was the case when Sister Callista was developing the Roy Adaptation Model 51 years ago, and it remains true today. One shining example is the Global Women in STEM and Policy undergraduate research training program. For the past two years, students in an interdisciplinary program have worked with faculty from different departments, studying and comparing breast cancer causes and effects in the U.S. and in Peru. As part of their research, the students traveled to Peru to survey women in indigenous communities and to learn about the country's healthcare system. This program is just one of many ways we are committed to academic excellence and to expanding our students' global experiences.

I hope you enjoy reading about all the things that continue to make the Mount unstoppable!

Sincerely,

Ann McElaney-Johnson

ABOUT US
Mount Saint Mary's is the only women's university in Los Angeles and one of the most diverse in the nation. The University is known nationally for its research on gender equity, its innovative health and science programs, and its commitment to community service. As a leading liberal arts institution, Mount Saint Mary's provides year-round, flexible and online programs at the undergraduate and graduate level. Weekend, evening and graduate programs are offered to both women and men. Mount alums are engaged, active, global citizens who use their knowledge and skills to better themselves, their communities and the world. msmu.edu

Mount Saint Mary's University is a diverse community committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of any characteristic protected by federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation.

PrismPublishing™ of
Mount Saint Mary's University

Mount Saint Mary's University | Los Angeles
mount
magazine

Spring/Summer 2018
Vol. 34, No. 2

EDITOR
Pia Abelgas Orense '15

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Debbie Ream

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Phillip Jordan

CONTRIBUTORS
Kate Fergusson
Kim Fox
Glenn Marzano
Jennifer Morgan '18
Anissa V. Rivera
Megan Shockro
Avni Thakkar

MSMU Archives

PRINTING
Pace Marketing Communications

© Copyright 2018. Mount Magazine is published by Mount Saint Mary's University, division of Institutional Advancement.

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
Mount Magazine
10 Chester Place
Los Angeles, CA 90007

To contact the editor or submit a story idea, email magazine@msmu.edu or call 213.477.2504.

Class Notes news should be mailed to Alumnae Relations at 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007 or emailed to alums@msmu.edu. Photo submissions should be 300 dpi.

msmu.edu/magazine

Mount Saint Mary's University
LOS ANGELES

Alumnae Relations: 213.477.2767
Business Office: 310.954.4040
Chalon Campus: 310.954.4000
Doheny Campus: 213.477.2500
Financial Aid: 310.954.4190
Graduate Admission: 213.477.2800
Institutional Advancement: 213.477.2764
MSMU Online: 800.860.1959
Undergraduate Admission: 310.954.4250
Weekend/Evening College: 213.477.2866

11

Healthy support system

PEER WELLNESS ADVOCATES LEARN TO INSPIRE, LEAD

14

Roy's home

MOUNT'S OWN LIVING LEGEND IS BACK FOR GOOD

18

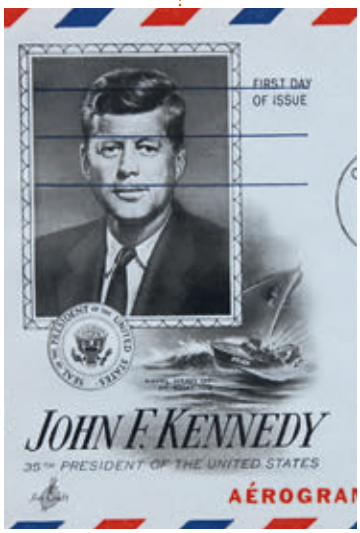
Beyond borders

CROSSING BOUNDARIES TO RESEARCH CANCER

29

The Kennedy files

ARCHIVES TEAM SOLVES A MYSTERIOUS DONATION



2 Updates

9 Accolades

23 Engage

24 Giving

26 Alum Community

29 Looking Back

Cover

PROFESSOR LIA ROBERTS, PhD, CENTER, WITH STUDENTS DURING A RESEARCH TRIP TO PERU LAST SUMMER.

updates

PHOTO BY KIM FOX AND GLENN MARZANO

HISTORIC COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

ON NOV. 11, THE MOUNT SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY community joined together and pledged to make history. During a kick-off gala, President Ann McElaney-Johnson announced the largest comprehensive campaign in the Mount's 92-year history: $100 million to support the dreams of current students and generations to come.

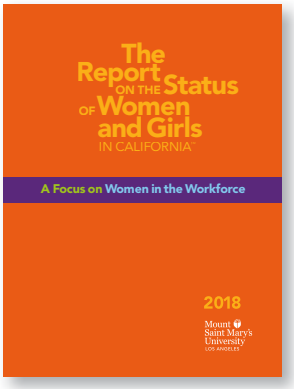
"At Mount Saint Mary's, we know that education changes lives," says McElaney-Johnson. "We've seen it time and time again in the lives of our students. Their stories move us. Their ambitions challenge us. Their triumphs inspire us."

Read more about the campaign on Page 25.

An Unstoppable Campaign for Mount Saint Mary's University will enable the University to broaden its rigorous academic programs; send more students to study and conduct research around the world; fund vital student scholarships; redouble the University's efforts for the advancement of women in Los Angeles and beyond; and construct a Wellness Pavilion to serve as the centerpiece of Mount Saint Mary's wellness movement — a movement that is making the University a national campus model for healthy living.

"This is a bold but necessary effort if we truly want to support not just our students, but their families, their future employers, our communities and the world," says campaign chair Judith R. McDonald.

Videos highlighting the initiatives supported by An Unstoppable Campaign for Mount Saint Mary's University can be viewed online at **msmu.edu/campaign.** The video showcasing the Wellness Pavilion features an original song, "There's No Stopping Us," written by composer Luke Tierney for Mount Saint Mary's.


The Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California
A Focus on Women in the Workforce
2018
Mount Saint Mary's University
Los Angeles

BEYOND THE REPORT

▲THE SEVENTH ANNUAL Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™ came with some new additions this year. For starters, the Report itself focused exclusively on women's standing in the workforce, examining why certain obstacles and biases continue to undermine equitable, professional opportunities for California's women. At the Report's March 22 public release at the Skirball Cultural Center, leaders in tech, media and business debated issues from the gender wage gap and the gendered segregation of industries to sexual harassment in the office, and the need for family-friendly employment practices and paid family leave policies.

Leading up to the Report's release, the University's Center for the Advancement of Women created a series of events designed to inspire women and equip them to eradicate gender inequities. Opportunities included a financial literacy workshop; a screening of the documentary "The Empowerment Project" and conversation with filmmaker Sarah Moshman; and a "Putting Angelenas on the Map" workshop with the L.A. Mayor's Office focused on helping the City add more public landmarks and statues in honor of women.

Visit msmu.edu/CAW to learn more. And don't miss the Center's new anthology of faculty- and student-authored research on topics like women in the media, women in engineering, re-entry to civilian life for formerly incarcerated women, and more: msmu.edu/collectif.

WINNING THE VOTE

▲ THE MOUNT HAS WORKED HARD to make democratic engagement and voting a priority for its students, and that dedication has not gone unnoticed. Near the end of 2017, the University received the bronze seal for Excellence in Student Voter Engagement by the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge.

"We are excited to receive this recognition for our voter engagement efforts, but it is our students who deserve to be honored," said Rosalyn Kempf, EdD, assistant vice president for student affairs and women's leadership. "We hope that students will continue to make their voices heard and use the knowledge and skills they gain here to make a difference."

Earlier last year, the Mount was also recognized as a Voter Friendly Campus as part of the Campus Vote Project. Mount Saint Mary's is one of only four institutions in California with the Voter Friendly distinction.

SPARKING A POETRY REVOLUTION

▼ LOS ANGELES KNOWS HOW TO DO POP-UP SHOPS. But pop-up poetry? Leave that to the Mount.

Marcos McPeek-Villatoro, an English professor and Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair in Writing at Mount Saint Mary's, has launched an ongoing series of pop-up poetry sessions at both campuses in an effort to spark conversations and showcase the power of the liberal arts in action.

"I think we need a revolution of poetry," he told audiences at both events. He quoted El Salvadoran poet Roque Dalton, who said, "Poetry, like bread, is for everyone."

In October and November, Villatoro offered dramatic readings of W.H. Auden's poem, "September 1, 1939," set amidst the backdrop of Hitler's invasion of Poland, and fostered discussions on hope and fear. In January, Villatoro turned to Rainer Maria Rilke's "The Panther," tying the iconic piece to other poems that address injustice and oppression. Each reading took place in Chalon's Coe Library or Doheny's McCarthy Library.

ARCHBISHOP TALKS TO MBA STUDENTS

◀ LAST NOVEMBER, ARCHBISHOP JOSÉ H. GOMEZ of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles offered his unique perspective on leadership to students in the University's Master of Business Administration graduate program. Gomez's talk, "Nonprofit Leadership in Today's Changing Business Environment," encouraged students to figure out the "why" behind their professional pursuits.

"The best companies, the most successful companies, also have a passion that drives them," Gomez said. "Something that is more important to them than money. My passion is why I work with the church."

The archbishop offered examples from the life of Jesus, noting that He came to earth not to be served, but to serve others — and he charged his followers to do the same. "This changes our whole approach to leadership," Gomez said. "It's not about power or domination or telling people who is the boss. Leadership is about service."

The archbishop's talk at the Mount inspired his next Angelus newspaper column, which focused on the church's mission to be in the "mercy business."

PUTTING ANGELENAS ON THE MAP

While half of Los Angeles' population is made up of women, this is not reflected in the programs that mark, designate or memorialize places, buildings and monuments. The research conducted on March 28 during the "Putting Angelenas on the Map" special event at the Mount will help change this.

The information will be used to increase the number of places, buildings, and monuments named after women, which today is only eight percent.

The collaborative event was sponsored by the City of Los Angeles, Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office, and the Mount's Center for the Advancement of Women.

EDUCATORS' EVENT FOCUSES ON HEALTH

EVERY OTHER YEAR, the Mount's Center for Cultural Fluency brings together teachers, social service workers and students to share innovative social justice teaching ideas. This year's Critical Teaching in Action conference, held at the University's Doheny Campus on March 24, focused on the intersection of health, wellness and social justice.

"We want to equip educators to help youth handle the effects of stress and trauma so that they can be healthy and successful," said Julie Feldman-Abe, PhD, Center director. "Our goal is to help teachers and students alike enact self-care practices for body, mind and spirit."

The day's keynote speaker was Mona Saint, MD, a physician at the Chopra Center for Wellbeing and the UC San Diego School of Medicine. The rest of the day featured interactive workshops, film screenings and more. Alumna Lorry Leigh Belhumeur '80 was awarded this year's Cultural Fluency Award from the University, in recognition of her 24 years of service as a mental health leader for youth in Southern California.

BOLEN LEADS DIVERSITY OFFICE

KARI BOLEN, EdD, is the new director of the University's Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She comes to the Mount from Pepperdine University, where she was director of intercultural affairs and adjunct faculty in business administration. Bolen graduated from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She received her master's in education and her doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Southern California.

Since joining the Mount, Bolen has helped to organize several events, including a "Teach-In for Justice" series led by expert faculty and a Social Justice Week of events on both campuses.

MSMU RECEIVES DOJ GRANT

LAST NOVEMBER, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women awarded Mount Saint Mary's a three-year, $300,000 grant. The funding will help the University enhance existing community partnerships, expand training and education resources, and further raise awareness around the topics of sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking.

In February, the Mount's Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion hosted a Title IX discussion, "Know the Difference, Know Your Rights." In addition, President Ann McElaney-Johnson welcomed the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California for a public conversation on "Sexual Harassment in Housing – Its Impact & What is Being Done to Combat This Issue."

AN EDUCATING EXHIBIT

▲ "TWO ROADS, ONE JOURNEY: Education in China and the United States" is now on display in the Doheny Campus' J. Thomas McCarthy Library. Originally created by The Museum of Teaching and Learning, the exhibition has Nancy Pine, PhD, professor emerita and founder of the University's Bridging Cultures: U.S./China program, as its lead scholar, and her book, "Educating Young Giants: What Kids Learn (and Don't Learn) in China and America," as its inspiration.

The immersive installation leads visitors through a day in the life of two typical fourth-graders — one in China and one in America — via colorful text panels, art and schoolwork, photographs and more. The exhibition will be on display through April 28, thanks to the support of the Mount's libraries, Center for Cultural Fluency and Center for Global Initiatives.

HOMES FOR CSJ INSTITUTE AND CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

▼ EXTENSIVE RENOVATIONS OF THE DOHENY MANSION'S third floor enabled the CSJ Institute and the Center for the Advancement of Women to each open new spaces there last fall.

The CSJ Institute preserves and advances the mission and legacy of the Mount's founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ). The Institute's new home offers a place for researchers, students, sisters and partners to visit. Sisters joined in an opening celebration, blessing the space and the Institute's ongoing work.

"We stand on the shoulders of these great women," said Shannon Green, director of the CSJ Institute. "We thank them for their courageous and visionary leadership, and for inspiring us to continue to serve our dear neighbors."

Collaborative partnerships are also key to the work of the Center for the Advancement of Women, which seeks solutions to persistent gender inequities and works with partners to eradicate those inequities.

"As a women's university, issues such as gender parity, equitable opportunity and women's leadership are woven into our fabric," says Emerald Archer, PhD, director of the Center. "This space will serve as a hub for our work and as a place where partners, faculty and student researchers can gather."

FEET IN THE STREET

◀ FOR GENERATIONS, THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF CARONDELET (CSJ) have approached issues of justice with prayer — and action. Now, thanks to a new, ongoing series called "Feet in the Street," Mount students can hear directly from sisters about their social justice ministries. The idea started with Bernadette Robert, the University's associate vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion. She collaborated with Sister Darlene Kawulok, CSJ, associate professor of religious studies, to make it happen.

"Bernie saw this as a great opportunity to connect generations," Kawulok said, "bringing together sisters who have worked in the areas of prison reform, homelessness and immigration with our students whose awareness is being awakened through our classes and mission here at MSMU."

Already this year, the CSJ Institute and Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion have sponsored three "Feet in the Street" conversations between students and sisters.

FESTIVAL CELEBRATES WOMEN IN MUSIC

▲ VIRTUOSO JAPANESE KOTO PLAYERS. Iranian jazz fusion. Hip-hop infused with *Son Jarocho*. Oh, and a Grammy-winning MacArthur Fellow who is an opera-singer-turned-folk-revivalist. That represented just a sampling of the acts at Mount Saint Mary's first-ever Women in Music Festival, held March 25 at Doheny.

Produced by the University's Music Department and the Da Camera Society at Mount Saint Mary's, the festival showcased the brilliance of female musicians and music scholars from the L.A. area and beyond. In addition to the wide variety of musical performances, the day included presentations about musical activism, music in black America, music and healthcare, and music and the brain.

The festival also included performances by the University's own Mount Chorus and soprano Julia Johnson '18. Grammy-winner Rhiannon Giddens, *above*, an Americana sensation and founding member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, closed with an evening concert.

SKIRBALL FIRE BRINGS COMMUNITY CLOSER

THE END OF 2017 BROUGHT MANY FIRES TO CALIFORNIA, including the Skirball Fire in December, which burned across the 405 Freeway from the Mount's Chalon Campus. While the campus remained safe, precautions were taken to evacuate. In the wake of that uncertainty and disruption, the Mount community came together.

Doheny Campus members welcomed Chalon evacuees, making sure they had the support and resources needed. Final exams, under way at the time, were rescheduled at Doheny. Chalon residents moved into Doheny housing, and when residence hall space filled up, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet opened up their nearby Stimson House for the overflow. In all, the Chalon Campus was closed from Dec. 6-10.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT HOLLYWOOD

▲ FILM DIRECTORS, PRODUCERS, SCREENWRITERS, executives, agents and activists have been visiting the Mount's Chalon Campus this spring semester to share their knowledge with University film students who have a passion for shifting the representation of women and girls in media.

The 2018 "Women in Hollywood" series enables students to not just learn from industry insiders, but also to exchange ideas and network. That interaction with women such as filmmaker Ivana Massetti, *above*, founder of WomenOccupy Hollywood, has inspired some students' career paths and led to internships and job opportunities.

"Women in Hollywood" was started in 2016 by Nicole Amber Haggard, PhD, who teaches in the Mount's film, media and communications department. "The vision is to introduce our students to amazing women who work in Hollywood, and to shed light on the gender disparities in the industry — as well as the many opportunities in the movement towards equality," she said. "The goal is to get students thinking deeply about how the representation of women in the media impacts the world around us."

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

VA LECIA ADAMS KELLUM, president and CEO of St. Joseph's Center in Los Angeles, is the speaker at this year's undergraduate commencement ceremony, which will be held May 7. Under her leadership, St. Joseph Center has been a trailblazer in deploying integrated, multidisciplinary teams to help the most vulnerable homeless individuals obtain and maintain stable housing.

She was appointed last year by Gov. Jerry Brown to the newly established No Place Like Home Program Advisory Committee, which was developed to assist and advise the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

MOUNT WELCOMES NEW FINANCE VP

IN FEBRUARY, THE UNIVERSITY welcomed Debra J. Martin as vice president for administration and finance. In that role, she is responsible for providing strategic leadership for the University's finance, human resources, risk management, facilities, and auxiliary services departments. In addition, she is leading the planned construction of the Wellness Pavilion on the Chalon Campus.

Martin previously served as vice president and associate dean for finance and administration at Loyola Law School; director for institute finance at California Institute of Technology; and director of financial management at New York University School of Law. A certified public accountant, she holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Massachusetts.

FACULTY

Andy Bernstein, a photographer and part-time instructor in the film, media and communications department, was recently honored by the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame with the 2018 Curt Gowdy Media Award for Print for his continuous service to the National Basketball Association and for capturing some of the most compelling moments in the sport. The award was announced during the NBA All-Star Weekend in February.

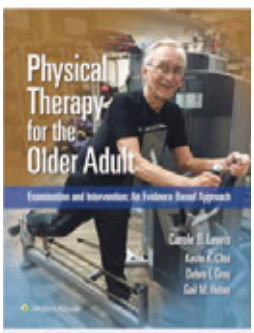
The Dec. 15 episode of PBS' To The Contrary featured "Cut: Exposing FGM Worldwide," a new documentary on the global issue of female genital mutilation. Kudos to **Charles Bunce '16 MFA**, chair of film, media and communications, for co-producing this important film with John Chua, PhD, associate professor of communications at Richmond, the American International University in London. For more information on the movie, go to cutexposingfgm.com

Proportion of dentists participating in Medicaid
Medicaid & CHIP eligibility levels
Perception that dental care is less important
health care
Lack of providers has resulted in
in some areas
Lack of pediatric dentists

▲ **Leah FitzGerald**, PhD, dean and Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair of Nursing, presented grand rounds at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) on Nov. 21. She talked about "Achieving Oral Health through Interprofessional Collaborative Practice." She also presented "The Passport to Wellness: Mobilizing the Learner Workforce to Describe Health Determinants of Defined Populations" at the HealthMeasures User Conference on Sept. 17-18 at Northwestern University in Chicago.

▲ **OSCARS EXPERT:** NBC4 interviewed Tim Cogshell, film and media instructor, and several of his students on Jan. 23 for a piece on the historic nature of some of the Academy Award nominees this year. The interview aired on the 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. newscasts. Cogshell is a film and culture contributor and critic for NPR, KNBC, Fox 11 News, KPCC, The Wrap and other media outlets.

Ruby Harford '82, '10 MS, PhD, nursing instructor, had her work, titled "Regional Variations in the Interpretation of the End-Stage Renal Disease Thirty-Month Coordination Period: Potential Implications for Patient Care," published in the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved. Harford is an alum of the Mount's BSN & MSN programs, the CEO of Atlantis Health Group in Puerto Rico and teaches healthcare policy to the leadership students in the University's MSN program.



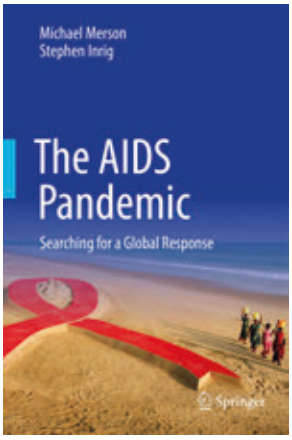
◀ Physical therapy professors **Alan Lee**, PhD, DPT, and **Craig Newsam**, DPT, co-authored a chapter on aging skin for the digital textbook "Physical Therapy for the Older Adult" by Carole B. Lewis, et al. It was published in October by Wolters Kluwer Publishing.

Michelle Melendres, EdD, assistant professor of sociology and Honors Program director, will present "Best Practices in Preparing First-Generation Students in Global Awareness and Understanding: A Spotlight on Travel Immersion" at the Western Regional Honors Council Conference in Orange, Calif., in April. Six Mount students will also present their Honors theses at the conference. In March, Melendres and her research assistant, Marianna Porras '18, presented "The Influence of One's Pursuit of Social Justice on the Aging Process: An Exploration of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet" at the International Organization of Social Sciences & Behavioral Research in New Orleans.

▼ Creative writing assistant professor **JoAnna Novak**'s first book of poetry,

"Noirmania," is now available on Amazon and at independent bookstores. It has already received praise from poet Peter Gizzi, who says: "In taut percussive muscular language JoAnna Novak wields a fierce hammer. Here are tuff poems cast in a bright element in the 21st-century telling it like it is. It is sonic, strong, and wicked; and so good." Novak toured for the book in March, reading in Los Angeles, Oakland and Portland. She also published an op-ed about the demise of the chat app AIM in The Washington Post in November. She was interviewed by The Rumpus about her novel, "I Must Have You," in December.

▲ The MFA in Creative Writing program celebrated the release of director **Johnny Payne'**s latest book of poems, "Heaven of Ashes," with a special reading on Jan. 20 on the Doheny Campus. Payne is a poet and novelist. His most recent books are "Heaven of Ashes," "Bit-Coin Orgy" and the most recently completed novel "Vampire Girl." He is part of the Transmedia Borders performance group and is currently co-writing the opera "Skyland" with Tijuana composers Roberto Romero and Ivan Velazquez. Last September, Payne performed his poetry as a multimedia experience in Mexico — spoken word in conversation with a soundscape and digital metamorphic painting — at the Hay Festival in Querétaro, at Claustro Sor Juana in Mexico City, and at the Cultural Center of Comala.



▲ **ON AIR:** Stephen Inrig, PhD, associate professor and director of the health policy and management graduate program, appeared as a guest expert on a pair of media outlets around the time of World AIDS Day. On Nov. 28, he spoke on KPCC's AirTalk with Larry Mantle, in a segment titled "As World AIDS Day Approaches, a Look at the Generational Response to the Epidemic." On Dec. 1, he appeared as an in-studio guest expert on ABC-7's afternoon newscast to discuss the AIDS pandemic. Inrig recently co-authored the book, "The AIDS Pandemic: Searching for a Global Response." He and co-author Michael Merson identify key deficiencies and provide a clear analysis of the lessons that can, and should, be learned for improving the response to AIDS and future global pandemics.

▲ **Marie Seitz '98**, interim TBSN director, and fellow nursing alum Gricelda Campos '99 participated in the Oncology Nursing Society's 2017 Capitol Hill Days conference in Washington, D.C., in September. They spoke with legislative aides and directors about Title VIII, which includes funding for nursing workforce training.

Christian B. Teeter, EdD, assistant professor of business, and Keck scholars Melanie Corral '19 and Stephanie Hickman '20 presented "Working on Los Angeles" at the Academy of Business Research conference in Las Vegas in October.

STAFF

On Feb. 22, a special speaker series hosted by streaming service provider Hulu featured **Emerald Archer,** PhD, director of the Center for the Advancement of Women, who shared data from the 2018 Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™ and discussed "Creating More Equitable Workplaces." Archer also presented findings from the Report to employees at SoCal Edison and discussed her book, "Women, Warfare and Representation: American Servicewomen in the Twentieth Century," with the Army Corps of Engineers in March. She will give a presentation on "The Gender Wage Gap: Implicit Bias in the Workplace and the Process of Cumulative Disadvantage" at the WorkHuman 2018 conference in Austin, Texas, in April.

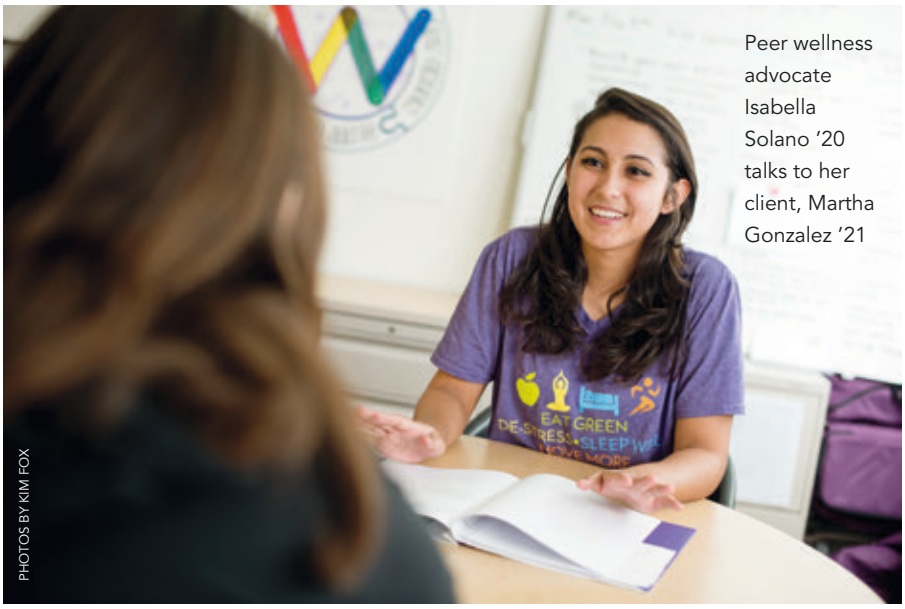
MOUNT WELLNESS

FARMERS MARKETS ON CAMPUS

▼ IN LAST YEAR'S University-wide Mount Wellness survey, students' No. 1 program request was to have a farmers market on campus. As a result, starting last fall, students are able to "eat green" more easily, thanks to free, monthly markets at each campus. At the Chalon market in February, more than 250 students shopped in The Circle, taking home about eight pounds each of fresh fruits and vegetables ranging from tangerines, grapefruit and bananas to tomatoes, cabbage and zucchini.

WELLNESS WEEK UPS THE ACTION

WELLNESS WEEK 2018 offered Athenians a robust series of nutritious and active events, with each day focusing on a different aspect of the Mount Wellness movement. The "eat green" day, for instance, included a build-your-own parfait bar and a "Mount Chopped" cooking challenge. Later in the week, students got to "move more" thanks to volleyball games, badminton, a rock climbing wall, Pilates and Tae Bo with fitness guru Billy Blanks. The week wrapped with "de-stress" opportunities including yoga and a sunset hike above the Mount's Chalon Campus. — *Jennifer Morgan '18*



PHOTOS BY KIM FOX

Peer wellness advocate Isabella Solano '20 talks to her client, Martha Gonzalez '21

Support system

Peer wellness advocates learn to coach, inspire others

By Anissa V. Rivera

THE MOUNT'S NEWEST GROUP OF PIONEERS is determined to help everyone along the path to health and happiness. In less than a year, peer wellness advocates (PWA) have already become an invaluable pillar in many a student's support system.

Under the recently launched PWA program, advocates get ongoing training from professionals on campus and expert guest speakers that prepare them for their crucial roles as leaders, changemakers and mentors. They earn their credentials as certified peer educators through the BACCHUS initiatives of NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.

The advocates are trained in the four pillars of the Mount Wellness movement: Eat Green, De-Stress, Move More, and Sleep Well. Most university peer educator programs similar to the Mount's PWA deal in several domains of wellness, says Alison Halpern, wellness manager.

"Our program is set apart by peer wellness coaching," Halpern says. "We have a hybrid peer health education model in which the PWAs develop programming as well as see students one-on-one for peer wellness coaching. This multilevel approach allows us to reach students individually and on the larger community level."

Another distinguishing feature of the program is the emphasis on the unique health needs of future healthcare providers. Over 50 percent of Mount students are training for future careers in the health sciences, and the PWA program's Health Healthcare Provider track provides them with the knowledge and resources they need to avoid injury and burnout on the job and to model healthy behaviors in front of their coworkers and patients.

Advocate Isabella Solano '20, a biochemistry major, plans to become a nutritionist and chiropractor. "I wanted to learn how I can help my peers in the Mount community think

more about wellbeing on a daily basis, and gain tools to keep conscious of their health habits," Solano says.

Last fall, Solano was matched with student client Martha Gonzalez '21, a political science major. The two met once a week for about a month.

"I decided to sign up for a trial, and ended up loving it," Gonzalez says. "I was able to add to my support system because my peer wellness advocate was very friendly and compassionate and helped me set goals."

Gonzalez says she appreciated how Solano listened.

"If I told her that I didn't eat too healthy, she would simply offer advice instead of reprimanding me for my bad habits," she says. "She really helped me get started achieving my health goals and inspired me to work on myself and my well-being."

Nursing major Ethan Diego '20 values the program's flexibility. "I like how it's tailored to what I specifically need, not some end-all, be-all process that I need to rigidly follow to be healthy," he says.

Justine Hsiao '20

His advocate, Justine Hsiao '20, says she has grown, too, as a coach.

"I've learned everyone struggles in their own way and has insecurities," she says. "It's important to be understanding of our diverse campus. I've also learned how to take initiative. Having that drive to participate: whether it's taking on new clients, or planning events, I've earned a world of experience and knowledge."

The advocates are the program's bedrock, Halpern says.

"I am constantly impressed by their dedication, flexibility, teamwork and creativity. This is the first year of the program, and this cohort plays a huge part in shaping what the program will look like," she says. "Another great strength is that we have institutional support. We are really lucky that wellness is a priority of President Ann McElaney-Johnson and that so many people want to see a peer wellness program succeed."

With the planned construction of the Wellness Pavilion on the Chalon Campus, the advocates will not only get their own space for meetings, events, workshops and classes, but also a higher profile.

"When students see that wellness 'W' logo, they'll know they are about to learn something and have fun at the same time," Halpern says. "As the community starts to understand and appreciate the PWAs' skills and training, I see collaboration between other departments becoming even stronger."

And while it's important to know the peer wellness advocates are not medical professionals, they are positive changemakers.

"What do they do? They listen," Halpern says. "Wellness coaching gives students a space to work through what they want in terms of their own health and wellness."

The PWA program is generously funded by the UniHealth Foundation and the Joseph Drown Foundation.

PHOTO BY JENNIFER MORGAN '18

WELLNESS EXPERT MEETS ADVOCATES

WAYNE SCOTT ANDERSEN, MD, a New York Times bestselling author and health pioneer, visited the Chalon Campus on Feb. 15 to meet with peer wellness advocates and give them tips on facilitating personal growth and development in others. Andersen serves as the Mount's wellness scholar in residence.

"The most useful tool that I took away from Dr. Andersen's presentation was the term 'autonomy support,' which means supporting someone's inner motivations, rather than giving them instructions," says advocate Justine Hsiao '20.

He encouraged setting "micro goals," small, incremental changes that build up to big successes. He reminded the advocates that "if there was a quick and fast solution to changing your lifestyle, everyone would be healthy by now," says Hsiao.

Andersen believes that the Mount's focus on peer wellness is unique because it promotes advocacy on a personal level. "This University has the opportunity to become best in class," Andersen says. "It's not just about academic success, (it's also about) giving the students resilience, that emotional intelligence so they can adapt and change with the environment. I believe the students coming out of here will be the ones that go out in the world and thrive."

To read more about Andersen's time with the peer wellness advocates, read Hsiao's essay online at msmu.edu/magazine.

The virtual *Odyssey*

Online poetry writing class pushes classic literature to the edge

By Anissa V. Rivera

THE WONDER OF IT FOR JOHNNY PAYNE, director of the MFA in Creative Writing program, is how the memory of a long-ago teacher and a well-loved book transformed his poetry writing graduate class into an innovative, virtual reality online course.

He remembers how every day after recess his fifth-grade teacher, Nawanna Fairchild, would gather his classmates and him back into their classroom in Kentucky. She would give them paper and crayons and read aloud from "The Odyssey."

Payne, a poet, novelist and playwright, says the classic became the first book he truly loved. "She didn't present it as 'great literature,' just as a cool adventure story," Payne says. "We had to draw a picture of something in the scene that she read. And she read us the real complete work, not some children's version of it. But we got it."

Payne plumbed that source when he developed an online poetry writing class using virtual reality (VR). He and Kimo Oades, senior instructional designer at MSMU Online, co-created a course dimension that takes place in virtual reality, a unique offering in the world of creative writing. The class was offered in the fall.

Payne's students first read Homer's "Odyssey," before undertaking a 3D voyage tracking the hero's route from the island of Calypso to the underworld and back to Ithaca. Students were rewarded with writing assignments at the end of each quest or game level.

"As readers, we are so far removed from Homer's world," says Dannielle Carr '19 MFA. "'The Odyssey' in VR brought to life a piece of art that may be lost on many readers. A reader's imagination may not always be sufficient to fully appreciate the magnitude of a work like this. The combination of technology and poetry was intriguing and didn't disappoint."

Carr says she loved how well the detailed game, assignments and workshops came together as a method of instruction.

"It's clear that a lot of time, creativity and collaboration went into developing the game as one of the main components of a course on the long poem," she says. "I was also surprised that the levels in the game had an emotional impact on me, like fear in 'Cyclops' and the 'Underworld.' The arias in 'Sirens' was my favorite, though."

Payne, who uses games in his classes as prompts or a relaxation technique, found a good match in Oades, whose technical skills allowed them to create a poetry course that would be an odyssey in itself. The team spent 1,500 hours planning and building the course, which was extremely detailed and done from scratch.

Scenes from "The Odyssey," a virtual reality program created specifically for a creative writing graduate online course at the Mount, take students on a three-dimensional journey through Calypso to the underworld and back to Ithaca. Writing prompts at the end of each quest challenge students to hone their analytical and creative writing skills.

"I wanted the students to understand how to think better in a non-linear way and be open to a method of thought that put them in risky creative territory," Payne says. "Several students told me that the experience changed their ideas about what poetry could be, and opened them up to the vital role of technology in creation. To their surprise, perhaps, it was really fun and not that difficult after all."

Payne is already looking into bringing his students to new learning frontiers. He plans to subscribe to a site that will allow his playwriting students to build their stage sets in the virtual world, and continues to spin out ideas for virtual and augmented reality.

"I think many professors, if they gave it a try, would be surprised at how transformative it can be in the classroom in any area of study," Payne says.

‘My life has been incredibly blessed and I think it’s just the providence of God the way that it worked out.’

Sr. Callista Roy, CSJ

ROY'S HOME

And we mean that in two ways. First, as a welcome back: Sister Callista Roy, CSJ, '63, PhD, beloved Mount icon and a living legend in the world of nursing, returns to the Mount after 35 years to teach, mentor and inspire our students and faculty. Second, as an honor: Her famed Roy Adaptation Model — which made her one of the most recognizable names in nursing theory, after Florence Nightingale — was developed in our very own classrooms.

By Pia Orense '15

Mount Magazine: It's been more than three decades since you left the Mount for your post-doctoral research at UC San Francisco and to teach at Boston College. What is it like to be back on the campus where you started?

Sister Callista Roy: Well, it is just sheer joy. I'm really happy to be here. This is home. There's so much of me here. I look down the hall and I see the faculty room where I developed the four adaptive modes. I was sorting all those 500 samples of patient behavior in that very room. This is where we did all the development of the Roy Adaptation Model. Why was I gone so long? I turned around and it's been 35 years! I knew there was a time to come home and this seemed the right time. I had to return when I could still contribute. My life has been incredibly blessed and I think it's just the providence of God the way that it worked out.

MM: The faculty and the students at the Mount were key players in the development of the Roy Adaptation Model. How did the process of developing the idea and the curriculum get started?

Roy: The beginning of it was when I was a master's student in pediatrics at UCLA. It was the

very early days of nursing knowledge development. It was 1964, a year after I had graduated from the Mount. That's when I met Professor Dorothy Johnson, who said we had to develop our body of knowledge about nursing and to do that, we had to know clearly the goal of nursing. She asked us, 'What are we trying to do as nurses?' I had just read a small piece in a book about adaptation, and I thought, 'Well, nursing's all about that!' So bold as anything, I just said, 'Nursing is promoting patient adaptation.' And she said, 'What do you mean by that?' So I got to spend my whole life explaining what I meant! After graduating, I came to the Mount to teach. The nursing faculty was very much ahead of their time — this was 1966. They were saying, 'We want to redesign the curriculum but it should be based on a strong focus on nursing.' I started talking about some of my ideas but they couldn't care less! I mean, they taught me when I was an undergraduate *(laughs)*. When I began teaching, I started using the ideas in my pediatric nursing class. I was looking at the goal of nursing as adaptation and designing a nursing care plan that listed patient behaviors and the stimuli affecting them.

But a strange thing happened at the end of my first year teaching. I had intense vertigo — it felt like I was in a centrifuge. It took 12 years for the diagnosis and the surgery because back then we didn't have the proper diagnostic tools, no neuro imaging then. It turns out there was a small tumor growing on my balance nerve. That first year, I was bedridden and I had to be trained to get back on my feet. I came back a year later and the faculty said, 'Now what were you saying a year ago?' *(laughs)*. So again, providence. I was developing some of the ideas on adaptation and one of them was assessing the processes of how people are coping. The faculty had their students collect for me samples of patient behavior. The pieces of paper asked, "When the patient needed a nurse, describe what was happening." They were color coded by their clinical areas: maternity was pink, medical-surgical was blue, etc. So I had 500 samples of patient behavior and I was trying to figure out how we could categorize the whole patient, and if there were categories that were useful. And that's how I came up with the four adaptive modes — from the information of the patients the students were taking care of. You know, later on, people said that in the early days of theory movement some of the nursing theories got very esoteric but they could always relate mine to practice. That's because the Adaptation Model came from practice.

MM: What was it like in that room 50 years ago when you were sorting all those papers with patient examples?

Roy: I was thinking, 'Oh my gosh, how is this ever going to make sense?' But I knew it was going to work because it was very much my style. I do a lot of things publicly but I'm very introverted and I'm also very analytical. From the time I was a child people thought I needed glasses because it looked like I was squinting. No, I was just thinking! But those early days of the Model were a great adventure in the sense that I really believed in what we were doing. And working with the faculty was just wonderful. The work was reward in itself to a certain extent but then I had the privilege of having this incredible laboratory to try it out in, and it was amazing.

ABOUT THE MODEL

IN THE 1960s AND 1970s, Sister Callista Roy's theory that "the goal of nursing is patient adaptation" was a revolutionary way of thinking. It changed the role of nurses from passive caretakers to critical decision makers who take a holistic view in healthcare. Her idea that people's physiological needs and their environments affect a person's coping processes became the foundation for the much acclaimed and now widely used Roy Adaptation Model.

The Model provides a framework of looking at people as adaptive systems that will help nurses prioritize care. "It's a lens through which you see a person not just as a sum of body systems but as a complex being in complex environments," says Roy.

In an adaptive system, relationships and interactions affect a person's feeling of security and emotional wellbeing. The patient's social and cultural environments provide internal and external stimuli that trigger his or her coping mechanisms. The Model challenges the nurse to help the patient identify which coping strategies are more effective and "to move the patient from survival to transformation."

MM: Both the Adaptation Model and the Mount Wellness movement focus on the whole person's wellbeing. How else does the wellness movement reflect the Model's approach to health?

Roy: I think it is timely that Mount Wellness promotes eat green, move more, sleep well and de-stress to enhance holistic wellbeing. Our society needs this focus. The wellness movement and the use of the Roy Adaptation Model both provide strategies for continually moving toward health. Just as focusing on physiological needs, self-concept, role function and interdependence are intertwined, so the wellness strategies are intertwined. Each one and all together enhance physical, mental and spiritual health. Further, the use of the Roy model and the wellness movement empower individuals to take charge of their health.

MM: The Adaptation Model recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. How do you see the future of nursing education?

Roy: Right now there's a huge push in the country to at least get all nurses baccalaureate-prepared. California is doing a great job and Mount Saint Mary's has contributed to that immensely. More and more nurses are doing primary care, and soon our families will be dealing directly with nurses to keep healthy. The future of education has to do with providing more well-educated nurses who are going to be able to take on more complex roles and become leaders so that they can help shape the future of the healthcare system.

PHOTOS FROM MOUNT ARCHIVES

LIVING LEGEND: Sister Callista Roy became chair of the nursing department in 1971. She holds master's and doctorate degrees from UCLA, and a post-doctoral fellowship in neuroscience from the University of San Francisco. She has received numerous awards and honorary doctorates in recognition of her contribution to nursing theory and practice. In 2007, the American Academy of Nursing honored her as a Living Legend, a prestigious distinction given to a very select group of nurses.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE: The Roy Adaptation Model received national attention for its pioneering approach to patient care. Above, Roy chats with journalists from KNBC-TV for a segment on the Roy Adaptation Model broadcast on March 27, 1982.

"I went from thinking nursing would be something I could do because I liked working with people and liked science to being completely captivated by Sister Callista's vision of the role that nurses and nursing could make on the health and wellbeing of others. It was transformative."

— Marilyn (Baumgartner) Shirk '73

Were you one of Sister Callista Roy's students or peer faculty members during the early years of the Roy Adaptation Model? Share your memories at msmu.edu/magazine.

PAPER TRAIL

COLOR-CODED PAPER: The most important information in the development of the Roy Adaptation Model came from patient behavior samples collected by the Mount's nursing students during their clinical experiences. Armed with color-coded sheets of paper (pink for maternity, yellow for pediatrics, blue for medical-surgical, green for psych and yellow for community), the students wrote down the reason for the visit: "What was the patient doing? What did the patient look like when needing nursing care?" All in all, Sister Callista Roy had 500 patient samples — each written on paper smaller than an index card — to sort through. "It was intense, but I knew it was going to work," Roy remembers of the days she spent holed up in a faculty room in the Humanities building on the Chalon Campus.

THREE-RING BINDERS: The "textbook" used during the first few years of the nursing program's Adaptation Model-based curriculum was a large, black three-ring binder. "Every week or so, there would be another chapter for us to insert into our binder," says Marsha Sato '77. "Literally, the pages were hot off the press." Once the curriculum was established and implemented in other schools, Mount faculty worked on producing the manuscript that would become the basis of the first book on the Model. The official textbook, "Introduction to Nursing: An Adaptation Model," was published in 1976. Sato was later hired — by Roy herself, who was by then the chair of the nursing department — as a full-time instructor and contributed to the second edition of the textbook.

REPRINTS AND RESEARCH PAPERS: Since then, five major book revisions have been published and translations have been made in 15 languages. The Model has inspired more than 500 research publications and countless other research papers. The Roy Adaptation Association, established in 1991, now has seven international chapters. Roy continues to speak at conferences throughout the nation and across the globe.

A CELEBRATION OF THE ROY ADAPTATION MODEL

The **2018 international conference** of the **Roy Adaptation Association** will be held on the **Chalon Campus** on **June 8-9.** For more information or to submit an abstract, go to msmu.edu/about-the-mount/nursing-theory.

BEYOND BORDERS

Students cross boundaries of nation and discipline to research cancer with a wide-angled lens

By Phillip Jordan

IF YOU'RE GOING TO EXPERIENCE A LIFE-ALTERING REVELATION, you could do far worse than the skyscraping Peruvian Andes for a backdrop. Janae Jones '19 can attest to this. In the summer of 2017, the biochemistry major traveled to Peru's highlands to survey doctors, nurses and patients to further her research on the effectiveness of natural remedies in treating cancer.

There, Jones may have found her calling: to work at a research hospital where she can study pediatric oncology and devise safer, more efficient and less taxing cancer treatments.

"I've always wanted to go into the medical field, but I had no idea how much this journey to Peru was going to affect me," Jones says. "I've learned that there is so much more to healthcare than the medical component alone — cultural context, family and work issues, access to care, pain management, the level of trust patients need to have. This program opened my eyes to new pathways to pursue."

The program she's referring to is the Global Women in STEM and Policy (GWSTEM) undergraduate research

PHOTO BY SAMANTHA HERRADOR '18

training program. Designed by Mount Saint Mary's University faculty, GWSTEM is open to students majoring in biology, chemistry, political science, healthcare policy and global politics. Students accepted to the program form a cohort and engage in a three-semester, cross-discipline experience that includes a summer of global field research.

"Our goal with this project is to increase the number of women entering, and excelling, in the fields of STEM, public policy, and behavioral and social sciences," says Lia Roberts, PhD, associate professor of political science and one of GWSTEM's leads. "We also want to make sure this is a sustainable model to expand global research opportunities for both students and faculty."

While innovative in method, GWSTEM advances a longstanding University mission to challenge students to think differently and work collaboratively in order to be catalysts for change in their communities and the world at large. And this program is equipping students for the journey.

"Rigorous, original research helps students develop critical thinking skills, learn how to troubleshoot problems and persevere when things don't work out the first time around," says Luiza Nogaj, PhD, professor of biological sciences and a GWSTEM co-lead. "Those are the skills that employers, grad programs and medical schools are looking for. Those are also the skills that give our students the confidence to dream big."

HOW IT WORKS

The program's first cohort — made up of 19 students — launched in the fall of 2016 with the aim of studying breast cancer causes and effects in the U.S. and Peru with a wide-angled lens. That meant having policy and political science students learn the science behind cancer and what can fight it, and also having biology and chemistry students understand how the political, social and cultural framework of the two countries might affect cancer treatment and access to healthcare for women.

During the semester before departing for Peru, students had the freedom to create their own small-group studies that would explore possible answers to the cohort's larger research question: Why do

Peruvian women have a lower incidence of breast cancer than American women? Jones, for instance, conducted lab experiments to determine the extent to which Peruvian natural remedies and nutritional differences contribute to the prevention, or prevalence, of cancer. Meanwhile, biology major Erica Cisneros '18 decided to research disparities in healthcare access between foreign-born Latinas in Los Angeles and indigenous communities in Peru.

The program's freedom and inventive approach even led some students to change their career paths.

"This project definitely drew me out of my comfort zone," says Cisneros. "But it also forced me to look at things from outside my spectrum, and that led me to find my new passion for policy and public health. If I hadn't applied to this program, I don't think I would have been as confident in applying to graduate schools for a master's in public health, let alone toying with the idea of getting my PhD."

INTO THE FIELD

In August of 2017, the cohort journeyed to Peru. There, over 10 days, students visited universities, hospitals and clinics, and learned about the country's healthcare system up close. Most meaningfully, students conducted scores of surveys of cancer patients and women in indigenous communities, gathering data on healthcare access, treatment options, nutrition, family history and other factors that the students could incorporate into their research projects.

The experience provided students with the chance to perform research in the real world. The previous semester, for example, Jones had been in the lab testing how fruits such as papaya and noni, sometimes used as natural remedies for cancer in Peru, might affect human cells. On the ground, she had the chance to interview people who used the fruit, and hear directly from them what effects the fruit had and why they'd chosen to use it either instead of, or in concert with, more conventional medicines.

"Having the political and social context from class helped us frame our surveys and present our questions in a respectful, informed manner," Jones says. "There's so much we can learn from listening, and learning from what's going on in people's lives that can affect their health and their treatment. Understanding that proved to be so important when we were in Peru."

BACK TO THE LAB

After returning home, students went to work analyzing their findings and preparing presentations on their research. At the same time, a second cohort of students was just getting started. This summer, that second group will also travel to Peru, adding to the data gathered by the students who came before them. A third cohort, to begin this fall, will likely target new populations to study for comparison, with potential field research destinations in Tanzania or India. Other future targets could include populations living along America's borders.

The program's sustainability is rooted in how it was constructed. Faculty can rotate in and out depending on the expertise needed for each cohort, and veteran students serve as mentors to incoming

INTERPRETING THE DATA

Upon returning to L.A., students took a final course to analyze and interpret the data they'd gathered in Peru, as well as to work on papers for publication and presentations they are sharing at regional and national conferences. Another innovative element of the program helped students learn to articulate the leadership lessons they'd learned. "They were able to not only learn new leadership skills, but also be able to identify how those skills add value to their resume and transfer to other areas of their academic and professional lives," says Rosalyn Kempf, EdD, assistant vice president of student affairs and women's leadership.

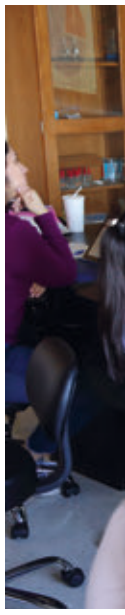


PHOTO BY GLENN MARZANO

BEFORE THE TRIP

In the first semester of the GWSTEM program, biology and chemistry students received their introduction to global politics in a "Politics of Peru" course taught by Roberts, center. Meanwhile, political science students crossed the threshold of biology and chemistry with a "Cancer and Society" course co-led by Nogaj, right, and Sylvine Deprele, PhD, associate professor of physical sciences and mathematics. The second semester focused on preparing for fieldwork in Peru. Students learned research methods and survey-making skills in political science, as well as hands-on lab training in biology and chemistry, testing various natural products in the lab.

PHOTO BY LUIZA NOGAJ

PHOTO BY GLENN MARZANO

THE TRIP TO PERU

During 10 days in the highlands of Peru, students interviewed medical professionals and surveyed cancer patients and other women within indigenous communities. For many students, the trip marked their first time abroad. So, in addition to visits to hospitals, clinics and universities, the trip also enabled students to immerse themselves in a global experience. The group visited Machu Picchu and hiked to the Temple of the Sun; visited the salt mines of Maras and roamed the Sacred Valley; visited animal sanctuaries and held baby alpacas; and participated in a traditional blessing by an indigenous Quechuan shaman.

PHOTO BY KIM FOX

Pauline Cheng '19, Janae Jones '19 and Erica Cisneros '18 hold up a woven blanket made in Peru.

students. Faculty and students can also work collaboratively to publish papers and continue their research long-term.

As a healthcare policy major and a chemistry minor, Pauline Cheng '19 was the rare student in the program who already had a foot in both the STEM and policy worlds. She has developed an ongoing project based on her experience in the program, comparing the role that medical mistrust plays in whether rural, marginalized communities in the Peruvian Andes and the U.S. Appalachians seek out preventative healthcare services. This year, Cheng hopes to update her research using new data gathered by the second cohort, and to work with Roberts to publish her findings.

TAKING THE LEAD

The program also opened up conversations on what it means to be a woman in traditionally male-dominated STEM and public policy fields.

"Being a woman in STEM and policy means I have a responsibility to demand more from myself," Cisneros says. "I don't represent just myself."

Jones says that classroom conversations about the challenges and opportunities facing women in the workforce — and in positions of leadership — are a staple at the Mount, and it's one of the University's distinctions that Jones appreciates most.

"We have power in numbers here, and we encourage each other, support each other as women," she says. "The Mount teaches us that we are unstoppable and it's more than a slogan. It's instilled in you. It's a belief they create in you. It's role models like I've had in Dr. Deprele and Dr. Nogaj who make me keep striving to reach higher."

Without their examples and encouragement, Jones says she would not be applying for prestigious REUs (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) this summer at national institutions, in fields like genetics and nanotechnology. Neither would she be looking into global internship possibilities in Africa, Europe or, yes, Peru. She would also not be planning to pursue her MD and PhD, so she can practice medicine, conduct research and teach students how to do the same.

"More than anything, what I love most is that now when I go home and my younger sister sees what I'm doing, she tells me how she wants to be a doctor, too," Jones says. "That's a beautiful thing when you can be an inspiration to other women, to the point that they think, 'If you can do it, then I can do it.'"

YIELDING FRUIT

The Global Women in STEM and Policy research training program is not just benefitting those who participate directly. Students and professors alike are sharing their research and insights with the wider academic world.

- Every student from the program's initial cohort has presented at an academic conference, such as the Southern California Conferences for Undergraduate Research. Each student is also presenting posters at the Mount's annual Academic Symposium this April, and several are developing papers for publication in academic journals.
- Roberts will take five students (including two biology majors) to present their findings at the Midwestern Political Science Association in Chicago and the Western Association in San Francisco this year.
- Nogaj is leading a contingent of STEM students to present at the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in San Diego, and Deprele will take students to the American Chemical Society Conference in New Orleans.
- This spring, the program's faculty co-leads will publish a paper in the Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research on the GWSTEM model and pedagogical lessons learned from this interdisciplinary project.
- Faculty are working to embed portions of the GWSTEM program into the University's General Studies curriculum, and there are also plans to build an independent honors curriculum specific to the fields covered in the program.
- Data gathered in this course are also being organized and archived to be made available for other professors and students to use in their own work.

"The beauty of the program is that it works for student and faculty research. For students thinking about grad school, this program offers evidence that they can do original research independently and collaboratively. For professors, it's tough to teach year-round, develop courses, support students and find time for research. With this program, we can teach students how to do original research, and in the process collect data for our own work."

Lia Roberts, PhD, associate professor, political science and co-lead of Global Women in STEM and Policy

VOLUNTEER: Alums have a blast playing against students during the Mount's annual Athenian Day.

WELLNESS MOVEMENT: The Wellness Pavilion at Chalon will house new health, fitness and sports programs.

GET INVOLVED AT THE MOUNT

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK. We invite you to join us. Mount supporters are able to make a difference in the lives of current students. How? Let us count the ways…

VOLUNTEER

MSMU Alumnae

Do you have a little extra time and a lot of affection for Mount Saint Mary's? Become a volunteer — we can always use an extra hand!

- Tutor current students in writing or math;
- Become a Mount Alums social media ambassador;
- Volunteer at the annual President's Day of Service;
- Review resumes and do mock interviews for Career Services;
- Interview prospective students for Admissions;
- Serve as a reunion class ambassador;
- And more!

Please contact Kate Fergusson, director of alumnae relations and volunteer engagement, at kfergusson@msmu.edu or 213.477.2512, or visit alums.msmu.edu/volunteer to learn more.

Doheny Mansion Docent

Docents plan, lead and assist in public and private tours of the Mansion. This opportunity is open to alumnae, students and friends of the University. We provide training to help docents build the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to be successful! Contact Mary Sloper at 310.373.2874 or msloper@msmu.edu to learn more.

SUPPORT

The Wellness Movement

Mount Saint Mary's University has created a comprehensive wellness initiative centered on the principles of inclusion, empowerment and personal wellbeing. The new Wellness Pavilion will house special programs for healthy nutrition, physical activity, sleep health and stress reduction — everything our students need to master the art of living well. Visit msmu.edu/wellness to learn more.

Mount Fund & Mount Associates

Annual contributions to the Mount Fund, the annual fund at Mount Saint Mary's, provide funding that directly supports our students and faculty. Your support makes a difference and every gift counts!

Contributors of $1,000 or greater annually are recognized as Mount Associate members and receive invitations to an annual luncheon hosted by the president. Visit msmu.edu/support to learn more.

Regents Council

Members of the Regents Council volunteer to serve as ambassadors in the community. Council members pledge $2,500 or greater and attend meetings twice annually to meet key faculty and staff, and learn about University initiatives and activities.

The Heritage Society & Planned Giving

The Heritage Society, established in 1992, is comprised of alumnae, friends, faculty and staff who have made plans to provide future support for the University. Notify us now of a planned gift and enjoy the benefits of joining the Heritage Society! Visit msmu.edu/plannedgiving to learn more.

JOIN US!

Those who support the Mount are recognized in the annual President's Report & Honor Roll of Donors, receive Mount Magazine, and are invited to attend special activities and events throughout the year. Please contact Megan Shockro, senior director of development, at 213.477.2875 or mshockro@msmu.edu to learn more.

PROFILE OF PHILANTHROPY: CARRIE ANN BLACKALLER '65, '72 MS

A career in education inspired by the sisters

"I FEEL LIKE I HAVE BEEN GIVEN SO MUCH through a myriad of different ways by my education at the Mount," says Carrie Ann Blackaller '65, '72 MS.

A recently retired professor, Blackaller's long career in teaching started at the Mount, where she received her bachelor's degree in English and Political Science, then an MS in education with an emphasis on special education. At the time, the Mount's Special Education program was considered innovative, ahead of federal laws later passed to ensure that educators were trained to work with students who have learning disabilities.

While at the Mount, she worked for the academic dean and the dean of the graduate school. Seeing the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ) in leadership positions made an impact on her, but it wasn't until years later that she realized the empowering effect of being in an environment where women leaders were commonplace. She was keenly aware of her responsibility and the expectation to be of service to others because of the subtle ways the sisters embodied service to others.

> 'Lessons that I learned at the Mount have sustained me through my professional and personal life.'
>
> *Carrie Ann Blackaller '65, '72 MS*

"Lessons that I learned at the Mount have sustained me through my professional and personal life," she says.

Blackaller went on to earn a PhD in education at USC. She was a special education teacher for the Inglewood and Torrance Unified School Districts, taught first and second grades and upper elementary history at the Escola Internacional de Valle do Paraiba in Brazil, was director of education for the Switzer Center, and eventually became a professor in the Special Education program at California State University, Dominguez Hills. After 25 years at the university, she retired in 2014. As emerita professor, she is now teaching in a five-year early retirement program for faculty.

Blackaller is grateful for the education she received at the Mount and the lessons she learned from the faculty and the CSJs. "Through giving, we acknowledge the debt that we owe to others," she says of her decision to include the University in her estate plans.

PHOTO BY GLENN MARZANO

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Every gift begins with an important question: How can I make a difference? If you have any questions about leaving a gift in your will to Mount Saint Mary's University, please contact Maria Solano at 213.477.2536 or msolano@msmu.edu.

PROFILE OF PHILANTHROPY: SHARON A. VAIRO

Remembering a beloved professor

SHARON A. VAIRO, DNS, was a beloved member of Mount Saint Marys' faculty for three decades. She found great joy in providing support to nursing students as a teacher, role model and mentor. She passed away in October.

Vairo joined the University in 1972 as a faculty member and enjoyed teaching until she retired in 2003 as a full professor. She taught in three Mount programs — the ADN, BSN and master's programs — and was at the core of curriculum development and implementation. She earned her doctor of nursing science degree from the University of San Diego, where her main focus was clinical quality and the education and formation of knowledgeable clinicians.

Vairo joined the United States Air Force in 1960 as an officer and flight nurse. She was most proud of her service during the Vietnam War, bringing wounded soldiers back to the U.S. on medical evacuation flights. After her initial active duty, she joined the Air Force Reserves and remained on active status for 32 years, retiring in 1992 as a colonel.

While Vairo was at the Mount, she observed the incredible impact scholarship support had on nursing students. By including the Mount in her estate plans, she ensured that future Mount students would benefit for generations to come.

Vairo's longtime dedication to the Mount will live on through her legacy and the grateful students who receive aid thanks to her generosity.

An Unstoppable Campaign FOR MOUNT SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Together we are unstoppable.

This is the most ambitious comprehensive campaign in Mount history. The campaign will expand academic programs, fund vital scholarships and allow us to construct the Wellness Pavilion, the first new building on our Chalon Campus in more than 30 years.

Funding Progress

as of March 2018

GOAL: $100M

80% to Goal

$80,131,381 Raised to Date

3,899 Participants to date

FUNDING CATEGORIES

70%
of $35 million goal raised.

The Wellness Pavilion
We are committed to graduating healthy, resilient leaders. That is why we are building the Wellness Pavilion — the first new construction on the Chalon Campus in more than 30 years. The Pavilion will be a hub for the University's wellness movement, health and wellness programming, and our innovative peer wellness advocate program, which fosters peer-to-peer teaching and learning. It will provide an advanced training lab, dynamic sports and wellness opportunities, and collaborative spaces for our entire community.

84%
of $30 million goal raised.

Educational Excellence
Mount Saint Mary's offers robust and diverse academic offerings that challenge our students to think differently, solve problems and work collaboratively. We are committed to reimagining and expanding our curriculum to meet the needs of today's global economy. We are dedicated to innovative teaching and learning techniques. And we strongly support faculty development and research opportunities abroad and at home.

87%
of $35 million goal raised.

Scholarships
This campaign will increase our ability to provide the dream of a college degree to students who need financial assistance. Scholarships produce a remarkable return on investment and allow our students to focus on their studies and graduate prepared to contribute and succeed.

To learn more, go to **msmu.edu/campaign**

alum community

PHOTO COURTESY OF JEN VAZQUEZ

MOUNT WELLNESS

Social fitness

Enthusiasm for the Mount Wellness movement is spreading. Alums across the nation have embraced the push to move more, eat green, sleep well and de-stress with regional events such as private cooking classes in Washington, D.C., *top*, and Los Angeles; a walking meditation retreat in the Bay Area, *bottom right*; and a mindfulness class in Arizona, *bottom left*. More wellness events are being planned; check your email for announcements.

SAVE THE DATE

25th Annual Valley Alum Celebration
April 14
Studio City
It's been 25 years since the first gathering of alums who live in the San Fernando Valley area of Southern California. Whether this is your first time attending or your 14th, all are welcome!

Imperial Splendors of Russia
Aug. 1-10
Moscow and St. Petersburg
Explore the grandeur of Russia with alums and friends during an eight-night, small-group journey that reveals Moscow's imperial riches and distinctive art and St. Petersburg's splendid monuments, palaces and churches.

2018 Homecoming & Reunions
Oct. 13
Chalon Campus
Nostalgia never felt so good! Enjoy this opportunity to connect with Mount friends old and new, relive college memories and get a firsthand look at what is happening on your campus today! All alums are welcome, with special celebration for reunion classes '58, '63, '68, '73, '78, '83, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08 and '13.

alums.msmu.edu
For more information on any of these events, visit alums.msmu.edu/events or email alums@msmu.edu.

Called to serve

On Nov. 4, alums answered President Ann McElaney-Johnson's "Invitation to Serve" — a day solely dedicated to giving back to the community. In addition to volunteering at L.A.-based community nonprofits, alums expanded this year's reach, hosting service groups at satellite sites in Phoenix, Ariz., *left*, Orange County, *right*, San Francisco and San Jose.

CLASS NOTES

1951 **Genevieve (Weeger) Smurda** and her husband, John, celebrated 69 years together in February. They are enjoying life with six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Rose Marie (Bachand) Thomas and her husband, Lou, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary.

1952 **Beverly (Halpin) Carrigan** recently traveled from Thailand to Vietnam and climbed Angkor Wat in Cambodia. She serves on the board of trustees of a retirement community.

1959 **Kathleen (Halloran) Koziolek** is still active as a member of the Winona Diocese Council of Catholic Women executive board, and doing volunteer service in her parish, St. Casimir Catholic Church in Wells, Minn. She provides "a loaf of yeast a month" for parish auctions and quilted totes for silent auctions benefitting the Minnesota Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

1960 **Patricia (Reap) Dern** moved from Michigan to her new home in Clovis, Calif.

Judith (Weber) Roughton's husband, Norbert, passed away on Jan. 14, 2016.

1961 **Nancy (Bergin) Rodenhurst** attended a wonderful high school reunion at St Joseph School of Hilo, Hawaii. Some of the people she connected with were her classmates for 12 years. Aloha!

Mary (Karig) d'Urso retired from Providence St. Joseph Hospital seven years ago. Since then, she has enjoyed traveling to China, Egypt, Italy, the Panama Canal and Brazil.

1963 **Anne Marie Rieger-Boenisch** went on a wonderful trip to Ireland and the beautiful country of India — the experience of a lifetime!

1964 **Michelle (Pierrong) Klepper** won the Tennis USTA Over 55 3.5 sectionals and went on to the state level in May 2017, held in Orlando, Fla. She placed third in state.

1965 **Pamela (Hamilton) Smith** retired in 2005 after almost 40 years of working for Los Angeles County. At the time of retirement, she was a program manager in charge of Adult Protective Services & Domestic Violence. She still keeps herself busy with several projects. She is a member of Soroptimist International of Los Angeles.

Catherine (Cozy) Geiler is presently retired in Carlsbad, Calif.

1966 ▲ **Pamela (Hallenbeck) Litz**, an avid Olympic pin trader, attended the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in South Korea in February. This was her 15th time watching the Games in person.

Mary Jo (Arana) Ferrell has been enjoying retirement since October 2016 and visiting her home in Canada!

1967 **Carol Dvoran Lancaster-Donigan** teaches piano in Simi Valley. She offers private lessons and conducts monthly workshops.

1968 **Kathleen (Kimball) Cha** has retired from a career in crisis communications and government affairs. She is currently making documentaries on violence against women and has been appointed to the San Francisco Bay Area Regional Planning Committee.

Macrina Garcia worked full time as a registered nurse for 44 years. In her career, she has served as a staff supervisor, director, transplant case manager, utilization review and public health nurse. She says she "loved every minute working."

1969 **Michele (Tomac) D'Amico** says she is busier in retirement than when she was teaching high school A.P. English! She is enjoying life in Sammamish, Wash., near Seattle, with her three wonderful grandchildren and the whole family as they follow the University of Washington women's softball team (her son and daughter-in-law coach the team) and the Seattle Seahawks.

▲ **Mary Lou (De Leon) Siantz**, nursing major and an early Latina graduate, received a prestigious leadership award from the National Hispanic Health Foundation on Dec. 14 in Los Angeles.

1972 **Joanne (Jabuka) D'Amico** still runs her various real estate businesses but takes more time off nowadays to travel the world. She has been to South America, Tibet, China, Croatia and Sicily. She also loves doting on her grandchildren. She is looking forward to her class' 45th reunion!

1973 **Debra (Bouchard) Hayes** recently traveled to Quebec Province, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton Island and Nova Scotia with her husband to celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. They followed it up with a New England trip to visit family and Debra's longtime best friend from high school.

Diane (Tonks) Mackin regrets to share the news that her daughter, Jamie Shepard Mackin, passed away in August. Jamie did her graduate work at Pepperdine University in teaching and was a founding teacher of Citizens of the World Charter School in Silverlake, Calif. Jamie knew the power of an education and how the Mount had influenced her mother. She also understood how much being at a women's college had helped in Diane's success as a student and nurse.

1974 **Kristine (Klumph) Bounds** was excited to see the future of the Mount at the gala dinner celebrating the launch of An Unstoppable Campaign for Mount Saint Mary's University, held in November. "I have always been thankful for my time at the Mount. The future is only getting better," she says.

Janet (Fisher) Petersen and her husband, John, are both retired now. They are planning frequent travels and visits to friends and family.

1978 **Ellen Aliberti** received the 2017 Case Management of the Year award from the Case Management Society of America. At her acceptance speech during the awards ceremony in June, she thanked the Mount and the Roy Adaptation Model for providing her with the foundation that has allowed her to have an amazing career in nursing, gerontology and case management.

1981 **Ellen (Eccleston) Sletten** is blessed and busy with a home in Los Angeles, a horse rescue and ranch on the Central Coast, and two beautiful little granddaughters. She still enjoys connecting with some wonderful MSMU friends!

1982 **Pamela (Parsons) Brannon** retired from her most recent job as a home health nursing supervisor to enjoy time with her three grandchildren. Her mother passed away in May.

1986 **Kathleen Bush**, **Michelle Cooper**, **Alison Lynch** and **Laura Grannucci** still go on their annual girls' weekend away. This year, their destination is The Big Easy, New Orleans.

1988 **Adria Tecuisson Goppelt Edwards** has a doctorate in physical therapy. She and her husband Steve Edwards, PhD, have three teenage children.

▲ **Suzan (Danger) Weishof** was honored as a U.S. State Department National Distinguished Principal 2016. She received the award at the White House from then-Assistant Secretary of State Joyce A. Barr. She has been the junior school principal at International School of Hamburg in Germany since 2010.

1994 **Elena Enriquez-Salazar** served as a high school counselor for 23 years. She enjoys keeping up with her three sons: Esteban, 17, David, 12, and Jaime, 10. She and her husband, Jaime, will celebrate 24 years of marriage in August.

1998 **Jane (Harris) Nadeau** is expanding her volunteer service to become a senior police partner with the Long Beach Police Department. She will be part of a team of seniors who participate in community outreach, perform welfare checks on seniors, vacations checks, and help out at special events in the city. She continues to volunteer with WomenShelter of Long Beach, which helps survivors of domestic violence.

2012 **Jackelin (Marroquin) Cuevas** celebrated her first wedding anniversary in December. She met her husband when they were both 14 years old and have been together for over 12 years.

IN MEMORIAM

'47	Frances (Shannon) Joy
'48	Regina Sinsky DeCoursey
'52	Maria Beaston
'54	Peggyann Reed Campbell
'56	Johanna Lopez Glass
'60	Rosemary (Byrnes) Hegenbart
'61	Linda Callon Feinberg
'63	Husband of Judith Harris Kleinberg
'65	Carole (Peccorini) Rounds
'68	James Marien Dyer, CSJ
'70	Alberto del Calvo
'70	Mother of Elaine Bannatyne
'71	Heidi Muth Galasso
'73	Elaine (Kreiner) Berman
'73	Beverly Bonzon
'84	Mother of Tami Simpson
'90	Maria Day
'92	Therese (Corpuz) Soogrim

BE A DOHENY MANSION DOCENT! Love history? Love the Mount's Doheny Mansion? Train to become a docent and lead tours! If you're interested, please contact Mary Sloper '62, msloper@msmu.edu, to register for one of our training classes.

Aside from newspapers and magazines covering major events in President John F. Kennedy's time in the White House, the inventory includes campaign buttons, collectible postmarks, inauguration memorabilia and audio cassettes.

The Kennedy files

ARCHIVISTS BOTH LOVE AND DREAD EMAILS. "We are going to send you 2-3 boxes of memorabilia/materials that were donated about 10 years ago (donor unknown)," read the note from a library colleague. The boxes contained "JFK memorabilia," the note said, adding "it might be of interest and/or of value." It had been stored untouched in the Doheny Campus' J. Thomas McCarthy Library for more than a decade.

Like many such deliveries, this one was larger than promised — nine or 10 boxes instead of two or three. But unlike some deliveries, the contents this time really were interesting and valuable, not to mention somewhat mysterious.

Our "donor unknown" had meticulously compiled more than 200 items having to do with the life and times of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. There are magazine spreads on his 1961 inauguration; photos of him and his wife, Jacqueline, in the White House; even a comic strip dated six months before his assassination on Nov. 22, 1963. There is extensive news coverage from that event and its aftermath, and scores of items on all matters Kennedy from the next three decades — photos, newspaper clippings, complete magazines, campaign buttons, pictures, a vinyl record and even menus.

Two student workers, history majors Luz Sandoval '18 and Jenelle Wilson '18, discovered the donor's identity while creating an inventory. In an old envelope they found a receipt with the name and work address of the buyer. A little more research finally revealed her to be Susan Crowe '57, former student body president, one-time president of the Alumnae Association and a generous donor until her death in 2002. Not just a student leader at the Mount, Crowe also held leadership roles in professional organizations throughout her career as a librarian at the Aerospace Corp. in El Segundo.

"Oh, she was a collector all right," remembered Crowe's Mount classmate, friend and fellow librarian Sheila Thornton '57. "She had boxes and boxes of clippings under her bed. We used to worry about bugs and mice."

Crowe's sister Carolyn recalled that Susan was a devoted fan of President Kennedy and probably started collecting clippings and memorabilia during his Senate career in the late 1950s. "She was devoted to Kennedy," she said.

Two generations later, fascination with JFK endures, and since 2006 the Mount has offered a course on the legacy of John F. Kennedy and his family. In Crowe's memory, the fully inventoried and cataloged collection will be given to the History and Political Science Department as a permanent research resource for students.

— Victoria McCargar, University archivist

Mount Saint Mary's University
LOS ANGELES

10 Chester Place
Los Angeles, CA 90007

msmu.edu

MountSaintMarysU
@MSMU_LA
@MSMU_LA
Mount Saint Mary's University

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LOS ANGELES, CA
PERMIT NO. 22801

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Are you ready to be inspired, network with like-minded professional women, and learn new skills that will have an immediate impact on your ability to be an effective leader? Join Mount Saint Mary's Center for the Advancement of Women and more than 450 professional women on Sept. 15 for a day-long event featuring industry leaders who will provide executive training, strategies and best practices to better prepare you on your personal and professional journey to be a more successful leader. **msmu.edu/wlc**

Upcoming

April 28

Ready to Run® nonpartisan campaign training program, Chalon Campus. msmu.edu/r2r

May 4

Graduate Commencement, Los Angeles Convention Center. msmu.edu/commencement

May 7

Graduation Mass, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Los Angeles. msmu.edu/commencement

Undergraduate Commencement, Shrine Auditorium. msmu.edu/commencement

May 26

The Da Camera Players, Doheny Mansion. dacamera.org

June 8-9

Roy Adaptation Association's 2018 International Workshops and Conferences, Chalon Campus. msmu.edu/about-the-mount/nursing-theory

Sept. 15

Women's Leadership Conference, Chalon Campus. msmu.edu/wlc

Oct. 13

2018 Homecoming & Reunions, Chalon Campus. alums.msmu.edu